

Eastern Arizona Type II Incident Management Team

North Taylor Fire May 24, 2006 9:00 a.m.

Acres: 117 Containment: 90% Cause: Lightning Personnel: 233 Fire Crews: 5 {3 Type 1, 2 Type 2} Helicopters: 3 Cost: \$753,300

Mop-up and rehabilitation

The North Taylor fire, located 19 miles southwest of Safford in the Pinaleño Mountains of the Coronado National Forest, is now 90% contained, with full containment expected by 6 p.m. Thursday. The fire is burning in steep, rocky, inaccessible terrain at about 7000 feet elevation.

Favorable weather conditions on Tuesday helped firefighters make significant progress on mopping up containment lines. Fireline personnel were also assisted by helicopters providing water bucket drops on hot spots within the fire perimeter.

Today firefighters will focus on continuing mop-up and rehabilitation of containment lines. Two Type 2 hand crews will walk out today and return to the fire area on Friday morning with one additional Type 2 hand crew to continue to monitor the fire's activity within containment lines and take suppression action as necessary.

Riggs Lake has been re-opened to fishing. Members of the public traveling Swift Trail (Highway 366) should exercise caution and maintain an appropriate speed in anticipation of fire traffic.

Fire managers expect to release three Type 1 hand crews (Hotshots) Thursday.

For more information on fire restrictions throughout the southwest, please visit http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc.

Contacts: Jonetta Holt, Public Information Officer, 520-400-1007 Peter D'Aquanni, Public Information Officer, 505-429-1060